

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-**

**10**

**OFFERED BY MR. JAMES OF MICHIGAN**

At the end of subtitle C of title XVIII, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 18\_\_ . USE OF ENTITLEMENT TO EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
2 **SISTANCE UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
3 **ERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**  
4 **PROGRAMS FOR PROGRAMS OF PRE-APPREN-**  
5 **TICESHIP.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 36 of title 38, United  
7 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3687  
8 the following new section:

9 **“§ 3687A. Programs of pre-apprenticeship**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), and  
11 except as provided by subsection (c), the Secretary shall  
12 treat a pre-apprenticeship program as a program of ap-  
13 prenticeship for purposes of providing educational assist-  
14 ance.

15 “(b) APPROVAL OF PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PRO-  
16 GRAM.—A pre-apprenticeship program may be covered  
17 under subsection (a) in the case of a program for which  
18 a State does not require any such standards, if—

1           “(1) the curriculum of the program is approved  
2           by a sponsor and the sponsor certifies to the Sec-  
3           retary that the program will prepare an individual  
4           with skills and competencies needed to enroll in a  
5           registered apprenticeship program; and

6           “(2) the program maintains conduct and at-  
7           tendance policies in accordance with a sponsor.

8           “(c) BENEFITS.—The educational assistance received  
9           by a covered individual enrolled in a pre-apprenticeship  
10          program under subsection (a) shall be equal to the amount  
11          and kind of such assistance received by the individual if  
12          the individual were enrolled in a program of apprentice-  
13          ship, except that if the individual is not paid as part of  
14          such program, each monthly allowance for housing payable  
15          to the individual under chapter 33 of this title shall be  
16          an amount equal to the monthly amount of the basic al-  
17          lowance for housing payable under section 403 of title 37  
18          for a member with dependents in pay grade E-5 residing  
19          in the military housing area that encompasses all or the  
20          majority portion of the ZIP code area in which is located  
21          the pre-apprenticeship program.

22          “(d) CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT.—The entitlement  
23          of a covered individual pursuing a pre-apprenticeship pro-  
24          gram under subsection (a) shall be charged at a rate equal

1 to the rate charged if the program were a program of ap-  
2 prenticeship.

3 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) The term ‘covered individual’ means an in-  
5 dividual who is—

6 “(A) entitled to educational assistance; and

7 “(B) seeking to use such assistance for a  
8 program of apprenticeship.

9 “(2) The term ‘educational assistance’ means  
10 educational assistance provided under chapter 30,  
11 32, 33, 34, or 35 of this title or chapter 1606 of  
12 title 10.

13 “(3) The term ‘pre-apprenticeship program’  
14 means a program or set of objectives—

15 “(A) designed to prepare individuals to  
16 enter and succeed in a registered apprenticeship  
17 program; and

18 “(B) that has a documented partnership  
19 with at least one sponsor.

20 “(4) The term ‘registered apprenticeship pro-  
21 gram’ means an apprenticeship program registered  
22 with the Office of Apprenticeship of the Employment  
23 Training Administration of the Department of  
24 Labor or a State apprenticeship agency recognized  
25 by the Office of Apprenticeship pursuant to the Act

1 of August 16, 1937 (popularly known as the ‘Na-  
2 tional Apprenticeship Act’; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

3 “(5) The term ‘sponsor’, with respect to a pre-  
4 apprenticeship program, means an entity that for-  
5 mally supports the pre-apprenticeship program, in-  
6 cluding—

7 “(A) a registered apprenticeship program;

8 “(B) a department or agency of a State or  
9 local government;

10 “(C) an institution of higher learning; or

11 “(D) any other public, private, or nonprofit  
12 entity that the Secretary determines to be a  
13 sponsor for purposes of this section.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
15 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
16 after the item relating to section 3687 the following new  
17 item:

“3687A. Programs of pre-apprenticeship.”.

18 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3687A of title 38,  
19 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall  
20 apply with respect to an individual who enrolls in a pro-  
21 gram of pre-apprenticeship described in such section be-  
22 ginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

